26.	Secretary, Handicapped Welfare Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow.	Member
27.	Secretary (Welfare), Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration, Port Blair.	Member

Nominated under clause (1) of subsection (2) of section 3:

28.	Dr. Onkar Sharma, General Secretary All India Federation of the Deaf, New Delhi.	Member
29.	Dr. Indarjit Kaur President, Bhagat Puran Singh Pingalwara, Society, Amritsar.	Member
30.	Smt. Mera Kumar, Member of Parliament, 6, Krishna Menon Marg, New Delhi.	Member
31.	Smt. Abha Singh, W-23, Greater Kailash, New Delhi.	Member
32.	Shri Akhil Gautam, Journalist, 286, Section-16-A, Chandigarh.	Member

Appointed under Clause (m) of subsection (2) of section 3:

33.	Joint Secretary (Handicapped Welfare) Ministry of Welfare	Member Secretary (ex-officio)

Subject to the provisions of this Act, the function of the Central Coordination Committee shall be to serve as the national focal point on disability matters and facilitate the continuous evolution of a comprehensive policy towards solving the problems faced by persons with disabilities.

The Central Coordination Committee may perform all or any of the following functions, namely:—

(a) review and coordinate the activities of all the Department of Government and other Governmental and non-Governmental Organisations which are dealing with matters relating to persons with disabilities;

(b) develop a national policy to address issues faced by persons with disabilities;

(c) advise the Central Government on the formulation of policies, programmes, legislation and projects with respect to disability;

(d) take up the cause of persons with disabilities with the concerned authorities and the international organisations with a view to provide for schemes and projects for the disabled in the national plans and other programmes and policies evolved by the international agencies;

(e) review in consultation with the donor agencies their funding policies from the perspective of their impact on persons with disabilities;

(f) take such other steps to ensure barrier free environment in public places, work places, public utilities, schools and other institutions;

(g) monitor and evaluate the impact of policies and programmes designed for achieving equality and full participation of persons with disabilities;

(h) to perform such other functions as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

Trade with Russia

*214. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are committed to promote trade with Russia attaching great importance to developing trade and economic cooperation;

(b) if so, details thereof with measures taken in this regard;

(c) whether some Indian delegation

headed by the Secretary level official had visited Russia to attend annual meeting of the Indo-Russian Working Group on trade and economic cooperation; and

(d) if so, details thereof with progress made to achieve objectives as referred to in part (a) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. An Indian delegation led by Commerce Secretary had visited Russia from January 23-27, 1997 in connection with the third meeting of the Indo-Russian Working Group on Trade and Economic Cooperation under the aegis of the Indo-Russian Inter Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation.

During the meeting, a wide range of issues of mutual interest for promotion and enhancing trade and economic cooperation with Russia were deliberated which *inter-alia* include the following important issues:—

— allocation of rupee funds to the experienced Russian organisations in a timely and transparent manner;

— steps to be taken to arrest the decline in the level of bilateral trade;

— to broadbase the basket of goods traded between the two countries;

— to prepare a schemefor consignment exports a

— cooperation between the insurance agencies of the two countries;

— to cooperate in facilitating the establishment of joint ventures in both the countries;

— to recommend establishment of a Sub-group on Financial and Banking Matters under the aegis of Working Group on Trade and Economic Cooperation.

AIR'W

India and Russia are traditional partners in trade exchanges and economic cooperation covering a number of areas. With the diversification of the economic cooperation, the volume of bilateral trade is likely to grow further. In order to further encourage Indo-Russian trade, the following trade promotional measures have been undertaken:—

— constant review of trade through Joint Commission mechanism and its Working Groups;

— promotion of dialogue including discussions at the highest level;

— promotion of direct business contact through exchange of delegation, Joint Business Councils, holding of exhibitions, participation in fairs, Buyer-Seller meets, exchange of trade information, etc.; and

— promotion of consignment exports and ensuring greater presence of Indian banks.

Share capital of BHEL

*215. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Morgan Stanley owns 13% of the share capital of BHEL, one of the most promising PSUs, in the country;

(b) whether ABB, a competitor of BHEL, is making moves to pick-up more of BHEL's equity, putting it into a serious position;

this regard;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to prevent the take-over of BHEL by MNCs?

THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) As on 31.1.97, M/s. Morgan Stanley Asset Management is holding 10.98% of the paid up Share Capital of BHEL;

(b) and (c) As on 31.1.97, ABB is not holding any shares in BHEL and the question of ABB picking up more of BHEL's equity does not arise.